

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF PETERBOROUGH

ABBREVIATED ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1946.

Public Health Officers of the Authority:-

Medical Officer of Health:- W. Anley Hawes, M.B., B.S., D.P.H. Lond.
Part Time.

Sanitary Inspector:- Mr. C. Green, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I.
Part Time Officer, who, in
addition holds the appointment
of Surveyor, Meat Inspector and
Water Works Manager.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I herewith submit my Annual Report for the year 1946.
The high birth rate of 21.3, low infantile mortality rate 22.3 and an
exceptionally low incidence of infectious diseases, with only a slightly
higher death rate in spite of a severe winter, show that the health of
the community has been very satisfactory.

SECTION A. STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	28,186.
Population	6498.
Number of Inhabited Houses end of 1945 according to Rate Books	1907
Rateable Value	£19,805
Sum represented by Penny Rate	£73.1.11d.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

<u>Live Births.</u>	Total		M.	F.
	139		73	66
Legitimate	126		65	61
Illegitimate	13		8	5

Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population:- 21.3
Corresponding figure for England and Wales:- 19.1

<u>Still Births</u>	Total		M.	F.
	3		2	1
Legitimate	2		1	1
Illegitimate	1		1	-

<u>Deaths.</u>	Total		85	46	39
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Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population:- 13.0
Corresponding figure for England and Wales:- 11.5

Deaths from Puerperal causes. 1

Deaths of Infants under one year of age:-

Total	3.	Legitimate	3
		Illegitimate	Nil

Deaths of all Infants per 1,000 live births 22.3
Corresponding figure for England and Wales 43.0

Deaths of Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	22.3
Deaths of Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births.	Nil
Deaths from Measles	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough . . (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2)	Nil

SECTION B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES OF THE AREA

1. (a) LABORATORY FACILITIES

By contract with Emergency Public Health Laboratory, Peterborough Memorial Hospital, at £10 per annum.

(b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES

Infectious cases are removed by the Peterborough City Isolation Hospital ambulance.

Non-infectious cases rely on ambulance from Peterborough. No ambulance service is provided by either the County or District Council.

(c) NURSING IN THE HOME

No provision is made by this Council for either General Nursing or Nursing of Infectious Diseases.

General Nursing

Castor & District Nursing Association provide one District Nurse whose services are available for the villages of Castor, Ailsworth, Upton, Sutton, Marholm and Helpston. The Association is maintained by voluntary effort and receives an annual grant of £20 from the County Council.

A District Nursing Association providing the much needed service of one nurse has now been formed in the Glinton group of villages.

(d) TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS

No centre or clinics in the District.

(e) HOSPITALS

<u>Non-Infectious cases</u>	are admitted to the Peterborough Memorial Hospital
<u>Infectious cases</u> -	Patients suffering from notifiable infectious diseases are admitted to the Peterborough City Isolation Hospital, at a weekly charge of £3.3.0. per case, with additional charge for the use of ambulance.

SECTION C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (1) WATER. A piped supply obtained from the Peterborough City Corporation mains is provided for every village.

Water has been adequate in quantity, no chemical or bacteriological tests have been made directly on behalf of the Council.

It is estimated that 1430 or 75% of the houses occupied by approximately 4,290 inhabitants are supplied direct from water mains, the remaining 25% of houses occupied by some 1,431 persons obtain water from standpipes.

(2) DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE

Eye - Sewage disposal plant satisfactory.

<u>Helpston, Eton, Glinton, Castor</u>)	By night soil
<u>Peakirk, Northborough, Maxey, Ailsworth</u>)	collection.

One village only, Eye, has a water carriage system of sewage disposal, the remainder use cesspits and old parish drains.

Preliminary plans for the sewerage of the whole district have been prepared and sent to the Ministry of Health. Final plans are being prepared.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Collection of house refuse and night soil is carried out by contract.

No provision for a controlled Bradford system for disposal of house refuse exists owing to difficulties of obtaining the necessary site. Disposal by either controlled tipping or incineration is necessary.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

No. of inspections made for all purposes	157
re-visits	233

SECTION D. HOUSING

Houses inspected during the year	21
Statutory Notices served	0
Informal Notices	11

3 Informal Notices were outstanding at the end of the year.

Housing Survey

No survey has been possible owing to shortage of staff.

SECTION E. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER

Licences granted during the year:-

Producers (Wholesale)	2
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Licences cancelled during the year	6
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Particulars of Registers at end of the year:-

Purveyors with premises outside the district	2
Producers (Retail) with premises in "	22
" (Wholesale) " " " "	25
" (Butter only) " " " "	9

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(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

No slaughter houses at present in use.

SECTION F. PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Notifiable Diseases. (Other than Tuberculosis).

	<u>Total cases notified</u>	<u>Cases admitted to Hospital.</u>	<u>Deaths.</u>
Smallpox	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	3	2	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Enteric Fever (including Para-Typhoid)	-	-	-
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	-	-	-
Pneumonia	2	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	6	-	-
Puerperal Fever	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-

With no diphtheria and only three cases of Soarlet Fever and 6 Whooping Cough, the incidence of infectious disease in the District during 1946 has been the lowest on record.

A small outbreak of dysentery was investigated in January. The 15 known cases, all in one village, were mostly amongst children. Two children, positive to Sonne organisms were found.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION

Cases are admitted to Peterborough Isolation Hospital at a weekly charge of £3.3.0. per patient; no particular number of beds being guaranteed. During the year, all requests for admission have been granted.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Free immunisation is provided by the County Council for all children of school and pre-school age.

Percentage of children in the District immunised at 31.December.1946

Under school age	-	25.8%
5 - 15 yrs.	-	76.5%

SCABIES

It has not been possible to arrange clinic treatment for Scabies. Patients can attend the Stamford Cleansing Centre at a charge to this Council of 17/- per case, but lack of travelling facilities makes this impracticable

CANCER

Returns show that of 85 deaths during the year, 19 were due to cancer.

TUBERCULOSIS

The following table shows the age, sex and type of diseases among new cases notified, together with the details of death from this cause:-

<u>New Cases.</u>				<u>Deaths</u>			
<u>Resp.</u>		<u>Non- Resp.</u>		<u>Resp.</u>		<u>Non-Resp.</u>	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1	-	5	yrs.	-	-	-	-
5	-	10	"	-	-	-	-
10	-	15	"	-	-	-	-
15	-	25	"	1	-	1	1
25	-	35	"	-	-	-	-
35	-	45	"	-	1	-	-
45	-	55	"	-	-	-	-
55	-	65	"	1	-	-	-
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2	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
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I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) W. Anley Hawes

Medical Officer of Health

July, 1947

